

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner: (i) rejects claims 1, 2, 7-14 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,812,122 (hereinafter “Ng”); and (ii) rejects claims 3, 4, 6 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ng in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,381 (hereinafter “Mathur”).

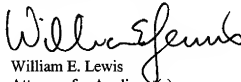
Claims 5, 16 and 17 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In this response, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

While Applicants believe that the claims as amended in Applicants’ previous Amendment and Response to Office Action dated March 9, 2007 are allowable, Applicants have nonetheless canceled the non-allowed claims without prejudice, and rewritten the claims acknowledged as containing allowable subject matter in independent form, including all of the limitations of the respective base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants are not conceding in this application that those canceled claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 3-6 and 16-18 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request withdrawal of the §103(a) rejections.

Respectfully submitted,



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